Mr. Jerry Ray
Box 145
Lake Zurich, Ill. 60047

2/4/77

Dear Jerry,

Yours of the 2d came today. So did Jim, for my wife to prepare his taxes for him. She is an expert on this. So I gave him the complaint and the attachments without reading them. He'll return them and I'll return the exhibits to you when he does.

No argument on Judge Taylor's reputation. I agree with you or Jimmy or whoever gave you the opinion.

I'm not going over all this again with you. I'm telling you not some pipe-dream but what I know. You were a "suspect" and they could have laid lesser charges on you any time they wanted to..

You heard the news reports on the committee and the leak of the newest Justice Dept. whitewash but you do not understand them. I see no point in trying to explain this any further because you either will not understand or will not let yourself.

You say you have not heard from Valentine but expected to. Don't. I told you long ago he is a friend of mine. He is in a new job, a desk job. This means he sits in place just about all day. I talked to him just yesterday about something else. There is another friend of mine for whom I wanted to leave a message with some assurance it would reach him so instead of using the message center I spoke to Paul.

By the way, if the Don Gordon show is aired in Chicago I'll be doing it soon. I do not know when it will be aired or where. I know it gets around.

You and Jimmy are bugs if you think the committee can get george there. They can't. They have no authority to investigate books. And if it were not this way what good would it do in Washington if he said he got information from the FBI. Everybody would ask so what elese is new? This has nothing to do with the case and it is all ego.

Lewis did not call me up. We have never spoken. The Times was ignoring that letter until the Star used it and then someone else called me, not Lewis. The letter hurt Jimmy very much, but you and he will not think so.

Jimmy thinks Sprague will be good for him/ Maybe he will find out. If Sprague is around for it, as I do not now believe. If he is not around it will not be for all the silly reasons Jimmy has made up to convince himself in his desperation. The difference between Sprague and Canale is that Sprague does not come from Memphis. As recently as this morning's CBS TV news that committee was still saying that while Jimmy is guilty, maybe he was not alone. If Jimmy thinks this will help him he'll have plenty of years to try to figure out who and how - when it did not, cannot and will not. ~~XXX~~ You all have been conned by the city slicker, Lane. Jimmy has flipped out entirely if he thinks Sprague can call the writers or will. It is outside the Congressional legal authority and the Congressmen would kick his ass out as soon as he suggested it. They have no interest in Jimmy except a headline and that headline they have written* Jimmy is the assassin. They have no interest in calling those who wrote as Jimmy did not want even if they had the right, and they do not have that right. I just don t know what kind of stuff you all smoke. But I do know that when it could make a difference you do not listen. So you do your thing your way. Then think of who it ~~XXX~~ can all be blamed on.

Sincerely,